

Amendments to the Specification

Please add the following paragraph before the first paragraph beginning at page 1, line 1:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application claims the benefit of U.S. provisional application serial no. 60/463,096 filed APRIL 15, 2003, which is incorporated herein by reference.

Please change paragraph 3, at page 10, to read as follows:

Such use of high and low voltage electronics, and the housing of such electronics inside the transducer handle, is described in detail in U.S. Patent No. 6,380,766, issued April 30, 2002, inventor Bernard J. Savord, which is incorporated herein by reference. FIG. 8 is a diagram illustrating transmit beamformer 92 and receive beamformer 94 housed inside handle 30, to thereby produce sufficient power on transmit and to also reduce wire count in cable 34, according to an embodiment of the present invention. In such an embodiment, some transmit and/or receive beamforming electronics might also be performed by electronics 96 inside electronics box 32. Thus, electronics 96 and transmit beamformer 92 operate together to provide appropriate beamforming excitation signals to cause 2D array transducer 98 to transmit ultrasonic energy of sufficient power to generate harmonics in tissue. Similarly, electronics 96 and receive beamformer 94 operate together to process the harmonic detected by 2D array transducer 98. A T/R switch 100 can be used if the same piezoelectric elements of 2D array transducer 98 are used for transmitting and receiving.